

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 1191

NOFORN

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MY, US

SUBJ: TOPICS FOR VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER

1. DCM AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS MET WITH UNDERSECRETARY KHOR ENG HEE AND FOREIGN MINISTRY REPS MAR 3 TO DISCUSS VARIOUS ASPECTS OF VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S VISIT, PARTICULARLY TOPICS WHICH MIGHT BE RAISED DURING MEETING BETWEEN VICE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER DATUK HUSSEIN ONN. KHOR EMPHASIZED THAT WHILE THE VISIT WAS TO BE LARGELY CEREMONIAL IN CONTENT THE MALAYSIAN ARE PARTICULARLY AWARE THAT THIS WILL BE FIRST TIME HUSSEIN ONN WILL MEET A TOP LEVEL AMERICAN LEADER IN HIS NEW ROLE AS PRIME MINISTER AND THEREFORE IN CONTENT, WOULD BE SUBSTANTIVE IN NATURE. KHOR NOTED THAT HERETOFORE THE U.S. HAS BEEN PREOCCUPIED IN VIETNAM WHILE MALAYSIA WAS BUILDING A NEW IDENTITY AS A NON-ALIGNED NATION, HOWEVER, OVER THE PAST YEAR RELATIONS HAVE BECOME CLOSER AND THEREFORE THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TAKES ON A SIGNIFICANCE IT MIGHT NOT HAVE HAD IN THE PAST. THE TOPICS THAT MIGHT ARISE IN THE MEETING FOLLOW.

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2. THE PRIME MINISTER MIGHT SOLICIT THE VICE

PRESIDENT'S VIEWS ON:

- THE LONG TERM U.S. STRATEGY AND INTEREST IN EAST ASIA, ITS SHAPE AND CONTENT, PARTICULARLY THE U.S. IMPRESSION OF HOW SOUTHEAST ASIA INTERRELATES WITH WASHINGTON'S STRONGLY PROJECTED RELATIONSHIPS WITH JAPAN AND CHINA;
 - THE MOOD OF THE CONGRESS TOWARD MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR FOREIGN COUNTRIES NOT ONLY IN THE PRESENT SESSION BUT ALSO IN THE LONGER TERM;
 - THE PRESENT STATE OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY, AND PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN THE BUSINESS CLIMATE;
 - THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDED U.S. INVESTMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA OVER THE NEXT FOUR OR FIVE YEARS;
 - U.S. POLICY TOWARD INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS TO STABILIZE THE PRICES OF PRIMARY COMMODITIES (SPECIFICALLY RUBBER); AND
 - THE COMING PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.
- THE PRIME MINISTER MAY VOLUNTEER MALAYSIAN VIEWS ON THE MTN NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA, PARTICULARLY MALAYSIA'S INTEREST IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE U.S. GSP, AND U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO IFI'S.

3. THE VICE PRESIDENT MAY WISH TO VOLUNTEER HIS VIEWS ON THE IMPORTANCE THE U.S. ATTACHES TO RESPONSIBLE ACTIONS IN THE UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES TOWARDS KEY ISSUES OF DOMESTIC IMPORTANCE SUCH AS PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE AND THE STATUS OF GUAM AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS. HE COULD TOUCH ON OUR SENSITIVITY TOWARD EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES (ISRAEL, KOREA) FROM INTERNATIONAL BODIES IN VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPAL OF UNIVERSALITY AND THE NEED TO FIND INTERNATIONAL SOLUTIONS TO SEVERAL SERIOUS PROBLEMS. THE VICE PRESIDENT MIGHT ALSO WISH TO HEAR THE PRIME MINISTER'S VIEWS ON:

- THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN PERSPECTIVE POST-VIETNAM AND POST-BALI WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE ROLE OF THE U.S., CHINA, JAPAN AND NORTH VIETNAM;
- THE FUTURE OF ASEAN AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF CONFIDENTIAL

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THE PROPOSED ASEAN ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY FOR THE REGION;

- PROBLEMS OF REGIONAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION.

4. THE NEW PRIME MINISTER HAS A SEARCHING MIND AND IS APPARENTLY INTERESTED IN GETTING A PERSONAL FEEL FOR THE WHITE HOUSE VIEW ON ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

THEREFORE, WHILE NOT ALL OF THESE TOPICS MAY CROP
UP DURING THE RELATIVELY LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE FOR
SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION, THE VICE PRESIDENT SHOULD BE AWARE
OF THE FULL RANGE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S INTERESTS.
UNDERHILL

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